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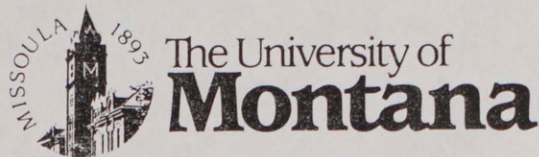
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NEWS RELEASE

Feb. 13, 2003

Contact: Provost Lois Muir, 243-4689; education Dean Roberta Evans, 243-4911.

UM DEAN OF EDUCATION ANNOUNCES RETURN TO FACULTY

MISSOULA—

The University of Montana's Roberta Evans has announced her decision to return to the faculty at the end of the academic year after serving the School of Education as dean for the past two years.

Under her leadership, the school has flourished, Provost Lois Muir said. Evans' leadership style inspires cooperation, collaboration and excellence, Muir said, adding that administrators, faculty, staff and students have enjoyed Evans' contagious enthusiasm and positive support.

In announcing the decision, Evans explained her need for a more flexible schedule with a growing family. She said, "From geography bees to violin recitals to basketball games, I have come to see that flexible time is imperative in fulfilling my own oversimplified philosophy about personal relationships: 'Must be present to win.'"

Muir indicated her respect for Evans. "It is with deep disappointment that I accept her decision but I have great regard for the values and life priorities that prompted Bobbie Evans' action," Muir said. "I look forward to working with Dr. Evans in the future in ways that both further university goals and support her family needs."

Muir said a national search for a new dean of education will begin immediately.

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